

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01 SP-02

STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-15

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 L-02 H-01 /082 W

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R 141053Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6349

INFO /USMISSION EC BRUSSELS 486

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR ETRD EEC US

SUBJ: US PROPOSAL FOR DISCUSSION OF GRAIN RESERVES

REF: (A) STATE 279906; (B) USEC 1017

1. AS FOLLOW UP TO REFTELS, WE CALLED ON PATRICK MCCABE, COUNSELLOR IN ECONOMIC DIVISION OF DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. MCCABE POINTED OUT THAT IRELAND IS NEITHER MAJOR IMPORTER NOR EXPORTER OF GRAIN AND IRISH GOVERNMENT IS THEREFORE SOMEWHAT INDIFFERENT TO PROPOSED MEETING IN LONDON FEB. 10 AND 11. SPEAKING FOR IRELAND IN ITS EC PRESIDENCY ROLE, ON THE OTHER HAND, MCCABE NOTED THAT US PROPOSAL PRESENTS TWO MAIN PROBLEMS.

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WM FIRST PROBLEM IS BELIEF THAT, WHILE THERE IS NO OBJECTION TO STOCKPILING IN PRINCIPLE, ANY SUCH TALKS SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN FAO CONTEXT. MCCABE REFERRED SPECIFICALLY TO FAO-SPONSORED INTERNATIONAL UNDERTAKING ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY (PARAGRAPH 1, REF A). IN THIS CONNECTION, FRENCH HAVE EXPRESSED "DISQUIET" TO IRISH OVER US PROPOSAL TO HAVE MEETING IN LONDON. NO OTHER EC MEMBER HAS MADE SPECIAL POINT OF COMMENTING TO IRISH ON US PROPOSAL.

3. SECOND PROBLEM NOTED BY MCCABE IS THAT OF WHETHER COMMISSION SHOULD REPRESENT MEMBERS AT PROPOSED MEETING OR WHETHER -- SINCE NATIONAL STOCKPILES MIGHT BE INVOLVED -- INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS SHOULD HAVE REPRESENTATIVE RATHER THAN OBSERVER STATUS. THIS, HE OBSERVED, IS INTERNAL EC MATTER TO BE SORTED OUT AMONG THE MEMBERS.

4. MCCABE ENVISAGES FOLLOWING TIMETABLE IN EC DEALING WITH US PROPOSAL:

JANUARY 16 -- COREPER WILL DISCUSS US PROPOSAL IN ITS BROADER POLICY ASPECTS

JANUARY 21 -- IF COREPER AGREES IN PRINCIPLE, QUESTION WILL GO TO EXPERTS GROUP ON BASIC COMMODITIES FOR DISCUSSION OF DETAILS AND DRAFTING EC POSITION TO TECHNICAL ASPECTS.

JANUARY 30 -- EXPERTS GROUP REPORT WILL GO TO COREPER FOR DECISION

FEBRUARY 10 -- IN CASE QUESTION IS NOT RESOLVED BY COREPER, QUESTION WOULD BE PLACED ON COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AGENDA.

MCCABE ADDED THAT THERE IS ALSO A POSSIBILITY THAT SOME MEMBERS MAY PRESS TO HAVE MATTER RAISED AT JANUARY 20/21 COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING, IN WHICH CASE DELIBERATIONS WOULD BE SPEEDED UP CONSIDERABLY.

MOORE

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Message Attributes

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